

Date: 5/1/09
To: Central Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC)
From: Department of Community Justice BAC
Subj: 2010 Annual Report

Process

The first meeting of the Department of Community Justice Citizen Budget Advisory Committee was held in November 24, 2008. Multnomah County CBAC orientation was held in January 2008 and again in October of 2009. Though this is a new committee, several of the members have significant budget and operational management experience and three of the members have worked in community justice, institutional corrections and treatment services for offenders.

Included in the last years planning report were six short-term priority categories. The DCJ found that several of these categories would be addressed within 2009 budget concepts. The categories included:

1. Substance Abuse Treatment
2. Mental Health Triage
3. Transitional Services from Jail, to Prison, to the Community
4. In-custody and Community-based Supervision
5. Case Processing and System Integration
6. Services to Crime Victims

Many of these issues, though presented in the 2009 budget, were out-of-target for the 2010 budget recommendations. The advisory committee would like to see a continuation of the previous year's priorities.

Budget Recommendations and Major Changes

A. Changes proposed for 2010 budget include the following out of target Juvenile Justice reductions and/or denial of restoration:

- 1) DCJ Juvenile Delinquency Intervention and Prevention
- 2) JDIP Restore- serves approximately 1,300 youth and provides cost effective consequences and case management. **Recommend restoration.**
- 3) DCJ Juvenile Formal Probation and Supervision

- 4) DCJ Culturally Specific Intervention Services to African American and Latino youth. **Restore with reductions in GRIT.**
- 5) Juvenile Accountability and Educational Support
- 6) Restore Treatment Foster Care. **Restore with reduction in GRIT**
- 7) Wraparound support
- 8) Detention Electronic Improvements
- 9) DCJ Juvenile Detention beds (16).

B. Changes proposed for 2010 budget include the following out of target Adult Community Justice reductions and/or denial of restoration:

- 1) DCJ Adult Offender Housing Restoration. **Recommend restoration.**
- 2) Housing ramp down.
- 3) DCJ Adult Field Services – Felony Supervision. **Recommend restoration, this is a cost effective program which serves approximately 500 offenders at a cost of \$4.75 per day.**
- 4) Adult Domestic Violence DSP Restoration
- 5) Adult Community Service-Community Court & Bench Probation.
- 6) Adult outpatient Treatment, restore 25 slots- **Recommend restoration, LPSCC and the CJC indicate that treatment services for offenders with substance abuse addiction reduce recidivism significantly and the overall cost to the county for offender care and custody.**
- 7) Adult outpatient treatment ramp down
- 8) DCJ Addiction Services Residential Treatment-10 beds. **Recommend restoration**

Recommendations/Concerns

The DCJ-CBAC members have not met frequently enough to provide a consensus as to supporting or rejecting the proposed budget recommendations. The 2009 recommendations included a proactive approach to managing clients with mental health and substance abuse histories. Ensuring these offenders are provided the necessary intervention and treatment are critical to the reduction of reoffense rates among this offender population.

The committee identified the recommended 2009-2010 priorities as:

1. Expansion of volunteer services within the DCJ to supplement delivery of treatment and transition services
2. Enhancement of mental health and substance abuse treatment services, utilizing the Wapato facility as recommended the previous year.
3. Continuation of transitional programs to assure released offenders has adequate work skills, employment, housing and support services.

The concerns expressed last year, relating to the perceived duplication of treatment and support services throughout the county has yet to be discussed and the committee recommends that this issue remain on the list of priorities for 2010.

The 2009 committee emphasis is to support the department as they work to identify areas for interdepartmental cooperation and integration of services.

Emerging Issues (carried over from 2009 report)

- 1) **Alcohol and Drug Treatment - According** to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) an estimated 74% of all incarcerated offenders have a history of substance abuse and 31% of offenders on community supervision in Multnomah County have a drug related offense. The last CJC report indicated there were 7,387 offenders on supervision with DCJ of those offenders 78% are male and 21% are female; 31% or 2,265 are on supervision for drug related offenses, 944 or 13% for theft, 633 or 8% for other no specified statutory offenses. The committee would like to see an expansion of treatment services in lieu of sanctions to jail or prison custody beds. The LPSCC two year report (2008) indicated that 74% of all community justice clients have a substance abuse history. The report found that 2600 offenders were assessed as needing substance abuse treatment and 550 are on waiting lists. The report identifies a problem that the advisory committee referenced, that treatment beds are “chronically full” (p16) preventing the necessary treatment intervention which has consistently demonstrated reductions in recidivism, jail bookings and convictions.
- 2) **Mental Health Treatment and Transition Services** – The most current CJC report estimated there are 29% of incarcerated felons suffering from mental illnesses. The Multnomah County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council report revealed that over 4,000 holds occur each year and of those 600 are referred for civil commitment. Though the LPSCC two year report (2008) summarizes the proactive response to these concerns there remains inadequate crisis intervention triage services and treatment beds.

Summary and Recommendations

The DCJ-CBAC committee has recommended that the DCJ continue to recruit community members in an effort to expand the representation of the committee and to reflect a more diverse citizenry (ethnicity, gay and lesbian community, age and geography). The members have been unable to meet with any regularity this year and that has lead to an inability to advise the DCJ in a meaningful way.

The recommendations presented by the DCJ for the most part are supported by the committee, however, it is suggested that high-end programs which serve fewer offenders be reconsidered, including:

- **Restore Culturally Specific Intervention Services** by merging with the GRIT program. \$232,481.

- **Restore the Foster Care program (50019A). \$76,650.** This program provides 730 bed days to that youth occupy annually. Youth who have a place to sleep, food to eat and supervision are less likely to involve themselves in delinquent behavior. Merge into reconfigured GRIT.
- DCJ Adult Offender Housing Restoration. **Recommend restoration.**
- DCJ Adult Field Services – Felony Supervision. **Recommend restoration, this is a cost effective program which serves approximately 500 offenders at a cost of \$4.75 per day.**
- Adult Domestic Violence DSP **Restoration**
- Adult outpatient Treatment, restore 25 slots- **Recommend restoration, LPSCC and the CJC indicate that treatment services for offenders with substance abuse addiction reduce recidivism significantly and the overall cost to the county for offender care and custody.**
- DCJ Addiction Services Residential Treatment-10 beds. **Recommend restoration**
- **Develop educational outcomes for the Londer Learning Center (50038)** and consider withdrawing the funding if measures are not met. The program currently costs approximately \$2,679 per offender, yet no educational outcomes were identified in the program description.

The use of recidivism as a measure does not assess the purpose of the program, to provide adult basic education and/or GED in an effort to enhance the client's ability to compete and obtain employment. Assessing recidivism following successful completion would be more of a meaningful measure.

Finally, with the passage of Ballot Measure 57, there may be an increase in jail time for property offenders with the expectation of treatment, unless the state takes some action. County's may find it almost impossible to provide the treatment unless they request enhancements to their already tapped budget.

We think that the recommendations made in this letter address the ballot Measure 57 expectations, and may serve to reduce the need for strictly jail or prison beds if the budget committee approves to support these budget items.

Submitted for consideration.

DCJ- CBAC Member Names

Joanne Marks
 Ginger Martin
 Elaine Premo
 Bill Thomas
 Joe Marrone (term ended 2/2009)

